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AGA American Gas Association

Gas Stats

Planning and Analysis

Monthly Gas Utility Statistical Report

1515 Wilson Boulevard
Arlington, Virginia 22209

Department of Statistics
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DECEMBER 1988

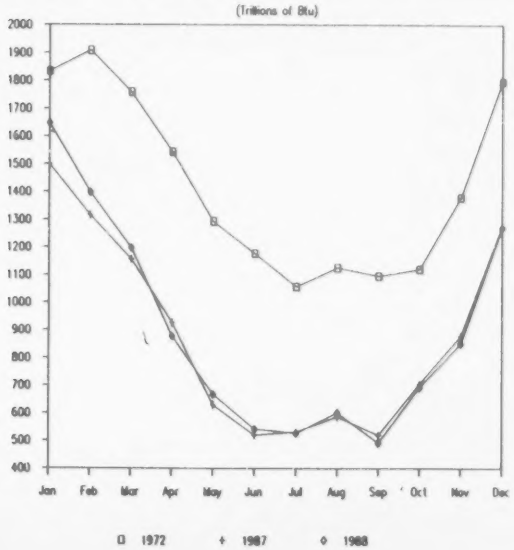
Residential and commercial sales increased while industrial and electric generation sales decreased in December 1988 compared with last year. Total utility sales were down from 1,276.2 trillion Btu in December 1987 to 1,270.3 trillion Btu in December 1988. Transportation volumes to end-users were up 20.9 percent compared with last year.

GAS UTILITY VOLUMES TO ULTIMATE CONSUMERS (Trillions of Btu)

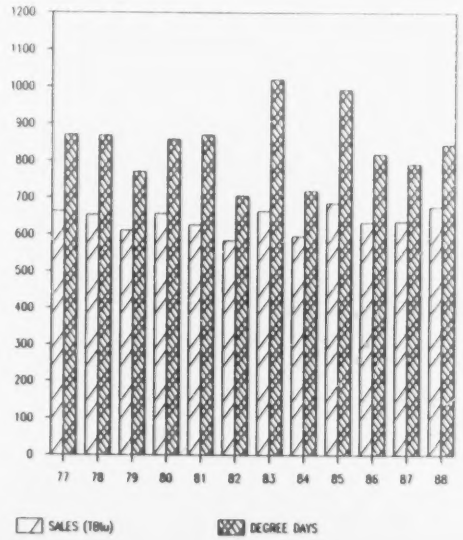
	December			Heating Season (Nov-Dec)		January 1 to December 31		
	1988	1987	%Change[1]	1988	(% Change) Last Period	1988 Forecast[2]	1987	% Change
Residential	677.0	636.9	+ 6.3	1,076.3	+ 6.8	4,687.9	4,384.8	+ 6.9
Commercial	301.7	288.2	+ 4.7	497.7	+ 5.4	2,294.4	2,155.8	+ 6.4
Industrial*	216.9	229.0	- 5.3	401.6	- 7.7	2,343.8	2,338.8	+ 0.2
Elec. Gen.*	54.0	101.6	- 46.9	120.2	- 41.6	1,288.8	1,509.1	- 14.6
Other	20.7	20.5	-	37.9	-	161.7	154.7	-
Total Sales	1,270.3	1,276.2	- 0.5	2,133.7	- 1.0	10,776.6	10,543.2	+ 2.2
Transportation*	386.3	319.6	+ 20.9	719.3	+ 15.5	4,065.5	3,451.4	+ 17.8
Total Volumes	1,656.6	1,595.8	+ 3.8	2,853.0	+ 2.7	14,842.1	13,994.6	+ 6.1**
Degree Days***	845	792	+ 6.7	1,361	+ 5.0			

*Significant sales volumes have been displaced by transportation volumes.
**No direct comparison with EIA consumption figures should be made.
***Source: NOAA (Weighted by Gas Homeheating Customers - Normal for December is 859).

TOTAL MONTHLY GAS UTILITY SALES



DECEMBER RESIDENTIAL GAS UTILITY SALES



RESIDENTIAL APPLIANCE SHIPMENTS - DECEMBER

(Thousands of Units)

		1988	1987	% Change '87 vs. '88
Domestic Ranges	- Gas	191.4	197.3	- 3.0
	- Electric	261.8	254.8	+ 2.7
Clothes Dryers	- Gas	86.3	80.2	+ 7.6
	- Electric	276.6	289.6	- 4.5
Water Heaters	- Gas	382.8	369.3	+ 3.6
	- Electric	306.1	286.2	+ 7.0
Warm Air Furnaces	- Gas	177.6	179.3	- 1.0
	- Electric	19.5	23.7	- 17.5
	- Oil	17.7	17.7	- 0.2
Boilers	- Gas	18.9	17.6	+ 7.9
	- Electric	0.1	0.1	- 56.1
	- Oil	12.0	12.9	- 7.0

Source: Gas Appliance Manufacturers Association (GAMA). Association of Home Appliance Manufacturers.

SPOT PRICES TO GAS DISTRIBUTION COMPANIES

(December 1988)

Receipt Point	Price ($/MMBtu)[a]
Northeast	$2.53
Southeast	$2.57
Midwest	$2.35
Southwest	$2.08
West	$2.27
Total	$2.30

Source: American Gas Association

[a]Represents average price paid at receipt point for a one-month contract.

ECONOMIC INDICATORS - DECEMBER

	1988	1987	% Change '87 vs '88
Total Actual Private Housing Starts (Thous. of units)	93.7	85.4	+ 9.7
Consumer Price Index (All urban, unadjusted, 1982 - 1984 = 100)			
Gas (utility pipe gas)	95.2	91.9	+ 3.6
Electricity	110.3	107.3	+ 2.8
Fuel Oil	74.2	79.2	- 6.3

Source: Department of Commerce, Bureau of Labor Statistics

Index Total Gas Sales (1972 = 100)	70.7	71.0	- 0.5
Gas Utility Prices ($/MMBtu)			
Residential	5.15	5.01	+ 2.6
Commercial	4.82	4.65	+ 3.5
Industrial	3.29	3.17	+ 3.7
Electric Generation	3.14	2.54	+ 23.4
Total	4.65	4.38	+ 6.1
Carriage Volumes[3] (Trillions of Btu)			
To Ultimate Consumers	386.3	319.6	+ 20.9
For Ultimate Consumers	100.7	100.9	- 0.2
For Resale	682.6	570.4	+ 19.7
Total	1,169.6	990.9	+ 18.0

Source: American Gas Association

AVERAGE GAS UTILITY PRICES FOR THE 12 MONTH PERIOD ENDING

($/MMBtu)

Year	Month	Total	Res.	Comm.	Ind. Only	Elec. Gen.	Other
1979	Dec.	2.522	2.918	2.665	2.261	2.120	1.937
1980	Dec.	3.134	3.612	3.336	3.184	2.651	2.667
1981	Dec.	3.650	4.161	3.909	3.311	3.241	3.458
1982	Dec.	4.456	4.969	4.721	3.969	4.090	4.303
1983	Dec.	5.120	5.882	5.508	4.486	4.198	4.921
1984	Dec.	5.128	5.938	5.511	4.410	4.222	4.869
1985	Dec.	5.017	5.953	5.441	4.248	3.812	4.791
1986	Dec.	4.602	5.651	5.035	3.650	2.726	4.025
1987	Dec.	4.315	5.387	4.764	3.112	2.513	3.424
1988[P]	Jan.	4.301	5.338	4.736	3.106	2.520	3.370
	Feb.	4.285	5.300	4.708	3.092	2.531	3.343
	Mar.	4.275	5.291	4.698	3.081	2.528	3.311
	Apr.	4.279	5.283	4.694	3.068	2.535	3.316
	May	4.162	5.277	4.678	3.050	2.513	3.318
	Jun.	4.150	5.271	4.661	3.026	2.506	3.302
	Jul.	4.142	5.270	4.648	2.988	2.512	3.337
	Aug.	4.242	5.267	4.630	2.952	2.562	3.344
	Sep.	4.242	5.267	4.620	2.936	2.577	3.361
	Oct.	4.244	5.270	4.617	2.909	2.590	3.356
	Nov.	4.262	5.279	4.613	2.912	2.618	3.336
	Dec.	4.293	5.295	4.634	2.922	2.645	3.395

AVERAGE MONTHLY GAS UTILITY PRICES

($/MMBtu)

Year	Month	Total	Res.	Comm.	Ind.& Elec.	Ind. Only	Elec. Only
1986	Dec.	4.55	5.15	4.72	3.35	3.60	2.76
1987	Jan.	4.48	5.13	4.74	2.94	3.03	2.62
	Feb.	4.60	5.15	4.79	3.23	3.43	2.62
	Mar.	4.47	5.13	4.72	3.11	3.34	2.63
	Apr.	4.29	5.26	4.78	2.92	3.25	2.53
	May	4.18	5.77	4.93	2.78	2.98	2.50
	Jun.	4.35	6.92	5.36	2.75	3.01	2.42
	Jul.	4.01	6.55	4.88	2.81	3.06	2.54
	Aug.	3.83	6.71	4.87	2.70	2.98	2.47
	Sep.	4.00	6.39	4.75	2.76	2.97	2.54
	Oct.	4.10	5.74	4.56	2.72	2.94	2.41
	Nov.	4.27	5.30	4.68	2.84	3.05	2.43
	Dec.	4.38	5.01	4.65	2.98	3.17	2.54
1988[P]	Jan.	4.37	4.91	4.57	2.95	2.99	2.79
	Feb.	4.46	5.33	4.61	3.21	3.28	2.94
	Mar.	4.37	5.06	4.63	2.99	3.20	2.55
	Apr.	4.33	5.16	4.74	2.92	3.09	2.63
	May	4.04	5.61	4.60	2.52	2.72	2.26
	Jun.	4.10	6.63	4.88	2.50	2.64	2.33
	Jul.	3.82	6.51	4.54	2.53	2.55	2.60
	Aug.	3.73	6.62	4.40	2.69	2.53	2.84
	Sep.	3.99	6.37	4.48	2.71	2.70	2.72
	Oct.	4.13	5.78	4.51	2.60	2.63	2.53
	Nov.	4.50	5.40	4.62	3.05	3.11	2.91
	Dec.	4.65	5.15	4.82	3.26	3.29	3.14

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[1]Gas volumes are based on, and the percent change is a function of, the 69 sample companies whose sales constitute about 58% of total gas utility sales to ultimate consumers. The peak year in total sales for the gas utility industry occurred in 1972.

[2]1988 forecasts for the residential and commercial sectors are based on available 1988 monthly data with the remaining months derived by using a four year average. The industrial sector forecast (industrial only, electric generation, and transportation) is also based on available 1988 monthly data with the remaining months of 1988 heavily weighted by last years volumes with no adjustment made for degree days.

[3]Carriage volumes determined by using a simple straight expansion of sample data to represent the total gas utility industry. Carriage volumes for ultimate consumers are volumes owned by the ultimate consumer but delivered to another transporter, not the ultimate consumer, and are therefore broken out to eliminate double counting of volumes delivered to ultimate consumers.

P-Preliminary.